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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Mark A. Ritchart et al.

Serial No.: 09/734,787

Art Unit:

3736

Filed : December 12, 2000

Examiner:

For : METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR AUTOMATED
BIOPSY AND COLLECTION OF SOFT TISSUE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the
United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed
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Patricia A. Jara

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Patricia A. Jara
(Signature)

March 9, 2001
(Date of Signature)

Hon. Assistant Commissioner
of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following amendments and consider the above-identified application in
view of the accompanying remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims ~~23-33~~ 10.